

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Organization and Operations of Object 7
of the Wismut A.G.

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1. The main office of Object 7 of the Wismut A.G. is located at Barenstein/Erzgebirge; the administrative district is situated at Annaberg.
2. The main office is divided into the Russian office which employs only Russian military and civilian personnel and the so-called German civilian administration, whose individual departments are also headed by Russians. The German administrative departments are in charge of police, utilities, personnel, and supply stores.
3. The administration is headed by the following persons:

Chief	Lt. Col. Barabashin
Mining Engineering Department	Chief Eng. Galvanov
Mechanical Department	Chief Eng. Kavalenko
Geophysical Department	A woman, known only as "Natasha"
Radiometry Department	Mrs. Vorishkova
Utilities Department (including purchasing, storage, supply, and kitchen)	Nicolayev
4. The functions of the above-named departments are as follows:
 - a. The Mining Engineering Department has supervision over all test diggings and mines and the work of the test digging crews in the individual areas. The department has its offices in the Russian administration building.
 - b. The Drafting Department is also housed in the administration building. It has a branch in the Mareck factory, where it employs only German draftsmen. This factory also contains offices for the German geologists and the German mechanical and mining engineers.

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- c. The Mechanical Department is in charge of all mechanical equipment and machinery in the individual fields of operation, in the two plants belonging to Object 7--the Mareck and Petzold factories--and in the plants working for the Object. The latter plants consist of the Langer machine factory at Bärenstein and the Schmiedel forge and repair shop at Hammerunterwiesenthal. The Mareck factory, divided into production, repair and electrical repair shops, is supervised by Vladimir Alexandrov, a Russian civilian engineer. The German chief is Heinz Kapler, an engineer. Each one of these shops, in turn, is under the supervision of a foreman or a "brigadier". The Mareck factory also contains the community kitchen for employees living in Bärenstein, the kitchen administration, and the main stores. The Petzold factory can be deemed to be only a subdivision since it is under the supervision of the Mareck factory. It contains only the production shop and the forge, and its stock is issued at the Mareck factory.
- (1) The mechanical equipment of these factories consists of the following:
- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 3 lathes | 1 electric welding set |
| 1 planing machine | 3 portable electric drills |
| 2 milling machines | 1 stationary drill |
| 2 electric grinding machines | 16 120 mm vises |
| 1 grindstone | 2 precision vises |
| 2 acetylene generators | 2 sets of strong current electric power tools |
| | Electric testing apparatus |
- (2) The entire personnel numbers 193:
- | | |
|-----|------------------------|
| 56 | Trained fitters |
| 16 | " electricians |
| 11 | " metalsmiths |
| 1 | " lathe operators |
| 7 | " welders |
| 102 | Other skilled laborers |
- (3) Operations are carried out in three shifts, and no definite production quota has been set.
- (4) The production section includes the forge and the welding shop. It produces bucket conveyors and conveyor equipment as well as spare parts.
- (5) The repair shop handles all repair jobs, but it does not make new equipment.
- (6) The electromechanical shop carries out minor repairs on electric motors and starters, but its main job is to produce pump units.
- d. The Geophysical Department is housed in the main administration building; it has no special laboratory. The Russian staff members consist entirely of women. The German staff members are not professional geologists but come from various white-collar professions. The German chief of the department is a former school principal from Oberwiesenthal. The work of these people consists in the gathering and classifying of rock samples from the various mines and pits of the Object. The evaluation of these rock samples is carried out at Siegmars. The Geological Department works with the Radiometry Department.
- e. The Radiometry Department is divided into research, testing and transporting Sections.

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- (1) The research section employs only Russians but uses a few Germans as assistants. The chief of the Radiometry Department is usually present. The work of this section consists entirely in searching for new radioactive spots in the test diggings.
- (2) The testing section is composed entirely of German workers, who were trained only to operate the apparatus. A certain number of these workers (from 6-12 men, depending on the number of pits) is assigned to each area. These men, called radiometrists, have the tasks of following the veins of ore in the production pits, checking the mined ore for its contents, and grading it. A Russian soldier is assigned to each work area as overseer; he is responsible also for the fulfilling of the ore production quota.
- (3) The transport section is in charge only of conveying the mined ore to the loading points. All its assignments originate from the Radiometry Department, and none of the personnel can be used for any other type of work.

f. The Utilities Department is divided as follows:

Main accounting office

Card file

Kiselov (in charge)

Purchasing of Supplies

Food purchasing

Storehouse administration

Kitchen administration

Personnel office

Kharkov (in charge)

Motor pool and repair shop (run exclusively by the Russians)

5. The Political Officer of Object 7 is Captain Stefanov, who ranks higher than the chief of the Object in all personnel matters. It is his duty to appoint a political commissar for each work area, to check on his work, and to act as mediator between the trade union (FDGB) and Wismut A.G. He is also the appeal authority for the workers' courts. Every type of activity is subject to his approval, and all political organizations are under his supervision.

6. Object 7 operates the following mining areas:

- a. The mining area at Hammerunterwiesenthal lies below the town on the road to Annaberg, directly on the small-gauge railroad of Oberwiesenthal - Granzahl. It has six pits, with an average depth of 35 to 75 m, and additional parts of the mine are still being dug. The actual ore-producing area is at Hammerunterwiesenthal. The following are the mining methods used here:

- (1) The length of the working day is 8 hours, composed of three shifts, starting at 6 a.m., 2 p.m., and 10 p.m.
- (2) The mining itself is done generally with automatic or manual hammers. Drilling or blasting is used only in special cases. The mined, active ore is checked by the radiometrists and loaded onto 60 x 30 x 30 cm crates at the pit head. The quota per shift is 30 crates. Above ground the material is classified again into grades 1 to 4.
- (3) The dimensions of the mining tunnels are 0.90 m wide and 1.80 m high; they are supported by scaffolding.

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- (4) The conveyor consists of a roller-type winch with an 18 mm rope. It is driven by a 14 kw Sachsenwerk triphase motor with salt-water starter, and it is operated only by women. Signalling is done by bell through rope or electricity.
- (5) The pits are supplied with compressed air by means of two compressors with an output of 250 at (sic, probably liters)/sec. The operating pressure is 6 atm. The main conduits are made of 6" pipes, DIN (German Industrial Standards) 2441; the leads in the pits are 1 1/2" DIN 2441 black pipes. No ventilation, however, has been provided for the pits.
- (6) Other mechanical installations are the metal shop, the forge and the electric shop. They are all housed in one barracks. Their entire equipment consists of an acetylene generator, a portable electric drill, six vises, one forge and one anvil. The hand tools belong to the workers.
- (7) Two types of centrifugal pumps are used:

250/70/7 pump with 12 kw AC motor

350/70/5 pump with 14 kw AC motor

These pumps are completely unsuitable for use in mines, since they are intended for clear water only. For that reason, pump failures are a daily occurrence, and work stoppages are usually the result.

- (8) The safety equipment, which is supervised by a safety foreman, is most rudimentary, consisting of bulkheads and digging limitations. Safety is maintained largely by the enforcement of regulations that prohibit personnel from using the conveyor, working without head protection, and remaining in the pits during blasting. The extent to which these regulations are enforced can be seen from the following statistics on accidents:

5 May 1948:	One person killed as a result of falling rocks.
12 December 1948:	Same.
13 December 1948:	One person seriously injured while riding on the conveyor.
13 December 1948:	Two persons killed by falling conveyor bucket.

- b. The other operating areas belonging to Object 7 are Strikes I, II and III, Shaft 34, as well as the areas in Heudorf and Scheibenberg. Strike II, Shaft 34, and Scheibenberg are exploitation objects. Strikes I and III and Heudorf are search diggings.

- (1) The organizational and technical divisions are the same as at the Hammerunterwiesenthal mining area.
- (2) The workers are housed in hotels, factories and other available buildings, and only a few live in private lodgings. Except for a hot lunch, which is issued pursuant to Order #254, the workers supply their own food.
- (3) In addition to the bonuses fixed by contract, the workers have been receiving, since recently, further production bonuses in the form of food, if they exceed the monthly quota by more than 100%.

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